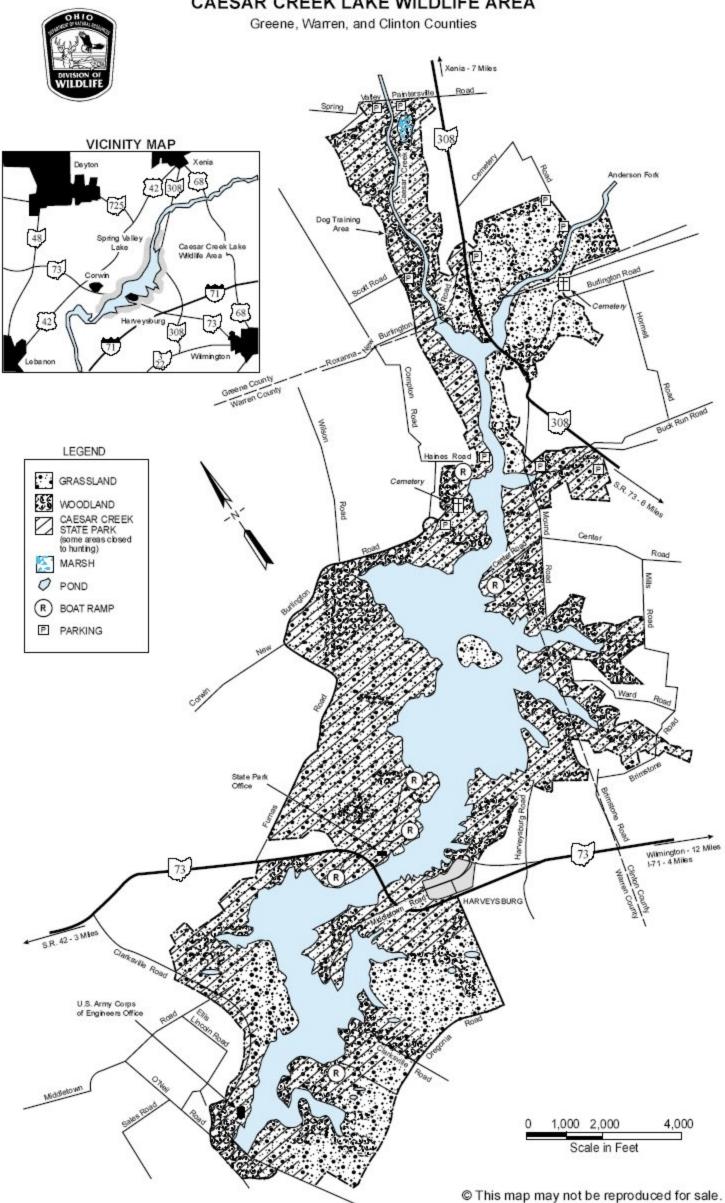
CAESAR CREEK LAKE WILDLIFE AREA





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Clinton, Greene, and Warren Counties

DISTANCE FROM MAJOR POPULATION CENTERS

30 miles from Cincinnati

62 miles from Columbus

26 miles from Dayton

31 miles from Hamilton

22 miles from Middletown

31 miles from Springfield

LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

Caesar Creek Lake Wildlife Area is located in southwestern Ohio, at the junction of Clinton, Greene and Warren counties. State Route 73 bisects the reservoir and crosses Corwin-New Burlington Road which provides access to the wildlife area from the south. Lumberton-New Burlington and Mound Roads reach the area from the southeast. In Greene County, Cemetery, Roxanna-New Burlington, and St. Rt. 380 provide access from the north and west. Clarksville and Oregonia Roads provide access from the south.

The 2,959-acre wildlife area lies scattered at Caesar Creek Lake, a flood control reservoir operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In summer, the reservoir is normally 2,830 acres. During periods of heavy rainfall, the reservoir covers portions of the normally dry wildlife area. Caesar Creek State Park, 8,129 acres, is on both sides of the reservoir.

Meadow and grain crops cover about 50 percent of the wildlife area and woodlands make up about 40 percent. The remainder is reverting fields--a mixture of shrubs, small trees, grasses, and forbs.

HISTORY AND PURPOSE

Caesar Creek was constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for flood control and recreation. It was completed in 1977. Of the 10,186 acres licensed to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, 2,050 acres are managed by the Division of Wildlife for public hunting and fishing. The Division of Parks and Recreation manages 8,129 acres for general recreation, and issues waterfowl hunting blind location permits on the reservoir for the waterfowl season. Some areas within the park lands are closed to hunting.

Wildlife area habitat management work has included development of crop rotations and field sizes to provide food and cover for upland wildlife. Wildlife habitat has been enhanced by planting trees and shrubs to establish field dividers, improving existing fencerows through selective cutting, and protecting and improving woodlands.

Park property on the northern part of the project is under a cooperative Habitat Management Agreement with the Division of Wildlife.

FISH AND WILDLIFE

Bobwhite quail, pheasant, cottontail rabbit, fox and gray squirrel, and whitetail deer are the major game species, although turkey are found on the area in fair numbers. Waterfowl are most common during migration. Common furbearers are raccoon, opossum, muskrat, mink, weasel, skunk, red fox, and gray fox. A variety of songbirds can be found on the area. Largemouth and smallmouth bass, crappies, walleye, bluegill, catfish, sunfish, suckers, and carp occur in the lake.

HUNTING, TRAPPING, AND FISHING

Caesar Creek is very popular for hunting rabbits, pheasants, and quail, all of which are found throughout the area. Squirrel hunting is best for gray squirrels in the larger stands of mature woodland and for fox squirrels in the smaller woodlots, along the streams, and in woody fencerows. Woodchucks abound on the area. Deer hunting is good throughout the area. Waterfowl hunting is available on the reservoir, the streams around the reservoir, and in ponds and wetlands.

Trapping is most productive around the ponds and wetlands, and along the streams running into the reservoir. The headwaters north of the reservoir are productive for largemouth bass, saugeye, and catfish, and have become very popular for the annual spring white bass run. Good fishing is found throughout the lake in coves with stumps and standing trees.

WATCHABLE WILDLIFE

Restored wetlands and prairies attract waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, and birds of prey. Caesar Creek Lake is home to gulls, terns, herons, and shorebirds. Trail maps and viewing guides are available. Visitors may see grassland-dependent birds such as grasshopper sparrows, savannah sparrows, and Eastern meadowlarks at the wetland-prairie complex located on Clarksville Road.

PUBLIC USE FACILITIES

Parking areas are distributed throughout the wildlife area. Several boat launching areas in the state park provide access to the reservoir. A dog training area is located at the end of Scott Road; dog training is permitted all year, only in the posted unit.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Further information may be obtained from the Wildlife District Five Office, 1076 Old Springfield Pike, Xenia, Ohio 45385; telephone (937) 372-9261.

TURN IN A POACHER

Ohio's TIP, "Turn In a Poacher," program is helping to curtail poaching throughout the state. TIP is designed to involve the public in reporting wildlife violations. Citizens who observe wildlife violations should call the TIP toll-free hotline, 1-800-POACHER.